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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
R. Mayenberger)
)
Application No.: 10/051,625)
)
Filed: January 18, 2002)
)
For: **INSTRUMENT FOR PLACING SURGICAL CLIPS**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 13, 2002

By: Carol Prentice
Carol Prentice

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. PATENT(S) :

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>
4,430,997	DiGiovanni et al.	Feb. 14, 1984
4,512,345	Green	Apr. 23, 1985

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT(S) :

<u>Country</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
Germany	196 03 889	Aug. 14, 1997
International	99/27859	June 10, 1999

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The references listed above are relevant because they were cited by the International Examiner in the Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicant's counterpart international patent application no. PCT/EP00/07010 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

DE 196 03 889 was also cited by the German Examiner in Applicant's counterpart German patent application 199 34 634.8 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

DE 196 03 889 has an English language counterpart, namely U.S. Patent No. 5,843,097 submitted herewith.

WO 99/7859 has an English language counterpart, namely U.S. Patent No. 6,352,541 submitted herewith.

OTHER U.S. PATENT(S) :

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>
5,843,097	Mayenberger et al.	Dec. 1, 1998
6,352,541	Kienzle et al.	Mar. 5, 2002

Copies of the above-listed references are enclosed, together with a completed form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject patent application, and therefore no fee is due.

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Page 3

Consideration of these references by the Examiner is
respectfully requested.

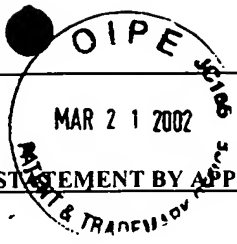
Respectfully submitted,



Date: March 13, 2002
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOE-672

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FORM PTO-1449

ATTY. DOCKET NO.: HOE-672

SERIAL NO.:
10/051,625

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT(S): R. Mayenberger

FILING DATE: January 18, 2002

GROUP:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	4,430,997	Feb. 14, 1984	DiGiovanni et al.			
	AB	4,512,345	Apr. 23, 1985	Green			
	AC	5,843,097	Dec. 1, 1998	Mayenberger et al.			
	AD	6,352,541	Mar. 5, 2002	Kienzle et al.			

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANS- LATION YES NO
	AE	196 03 889	Aug. 14, 1997	Germany			
	AF	99/27859	June 10, 1999	International			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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